

their jobs in the last two years, we should be doing more. This plan leaves over one million unemployed behind, and fails to provide them the benefits they need to put food on the table, clothes on their backs, and a roof over their heads.

We also should be extending this benefit for 26 weeks, not just 13. Although the bill provides that in high unemployment states jobless workers would be eligible for 13 more weeks—in addition to the 13 extra weeks available to all jobless workers who have exhausted their 26 weeks of regular benefits—the entire country is in need of this assistance. Because of the strict requirements for a state to qualify as a high unemployment state under this program, only six states currently qualify—Alaska, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Oregon, Pennsylvania and Washington. We should pass the full Democratic package immediately to help everyone seeking work, not just the few.

Research shows that during previous recessions, the stimulative power of unemployment benefits saved an average of 131,000 jobs and slowed the drop in the Gross Domestic Product by 15 percent. National studies have shown that \$1 in unemployment insurance leads to \$2.15 worth of economic growth.

Every week without unemployment insurance benefits, states lose \$200 million in cash—cash that in all likelihood would be spent at the local grocery store and the local gas station. Indeed, a recent study by Economy.com, an independent financial research group, found that the single most effective stimulus measure would be further extension of emergency Federal unemployment insurance benefits.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation unfortunately is long overdue, and very necessary. I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 2158, and quickly send this legislation to the Senate to ensure these benefits continue uninterrupted.

IN HONOR OF CAROLYN "CJ"
JONES

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 2, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to acknowledge Ms. Carolyn "CJ" Jones for her many years of public service and for the depth and diversity of contributions she has made to my staff and to so many people in Colorado.

Upon my election to the 2nd Congressional District in 1998, CJ was the first person I invited to join my staff. She was instrumental in organizing my campaign effort in Adams County, and in the early days after my election, she organized our fledgling congressional office from the basement of her house and took constituent inquiries on her cell phone. CJ Jones assisted in training many of my novice staff members and has subsequently set the standard of excellence for my office in the 2nd Congressional District.

Prior to becoming my staff assistant, CJ served in the offices of Senator Tim Wirth and Congressman David Skaggs. She is also the only member of my staff with her own election certificate—this to the Adams County School District 12 Board. Throughout her distin-

guished career, she has served successfully in numerous capacities. Her knowledge of Adams County politics is encyclopedic, and her insistence on application of House Ethics Rules has become legendary with members of my staff. We will deeply miss the staff parties at her home, her annual Christmas carols—which started with the earliest snowfall in September—and her tendency to break into song at any moment. Coworkers will also recall those rare moments in CJ's career when her blue eyes turned steely gray, signaling a red alert to everyone in the vicinity.

One of the things I share with CJ is a deep interest in young people. She has been the driving force behind my annual Youth Washington Seminar and she has mentored young people, chaperoning high school students in Washington with care and joy. She has shown young Coloradans that politics is not just about policy debates and electioneering, but also about having fun. High School students visiting Washington with her could always count on a visit to the monuments, but also a visit to the Hard Rock Café. To serve so broadly, so successfully, and with such grace, heart, and spirit is deserving of recognition.

CJ plans to spend some well-deserved time relaxing and traveling with her husband Bill, and spoiling her grandchildren. As a dedicated wife, mother and grandmother, CJ will continue to be the center of her family and the light of their lives. I know that they look forward to having her undivided attention and time. She will no doubt continue to be a force to be reckoned with in the arena of her garden and home.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in expressing our gratitude to CJ Jones for her exemplary public service to the people of Colorado and their elected officials. Her many accomplishments go beyond reckoning, and I wish her good health and happiness in the future.

HONORING SHAAN GANDHI, OF
BATTLE CREEK, MI, LEGRAND
SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 2, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence he has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Shaan Gandhi, winner of the 2003 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Shaan is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Shaan is an exceptional student at Harper Creek High School, and possesses an outstanding record of achievement in high school. Shaan has received numerous awards for his excellence in science and math, as well as his volunteer activities with the Calhoun County Chapter of the American Red Cross and the Substance Abuse Council of Battle Creek. A

Siemens-Westinghouse Scholar, Shaan has also participated in the NASA SHARP PLUS program, is a National Merit Scholarship Finalist, and has been accepted to Harvard University.

Therefore, I am proud to join with his many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Shaan Gandhi for his selection as winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to his success. To this remarkable young man, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all his future endeavors.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 2, JOBS AND GROWTH RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, the facts are startling. In just over 2 years, this administration has taken a vibrant economy and turned it into a total mess. Once we saw projected federal surpluses for years, but now we see unprecedented deficits as far as the eye can see. Once we saw Americans working in good paying jobs, but now we see over two million jobs lost and families needing help to make ends meet. Once we saw states thriving and providing much needed benefits to the most needy, but now we see massive state deficits that require federal assistance to close.

Something needs to be done to fix these problems. The question is what's the best way to do it? When we began the debate earlier this year about how to turn around our struggling economy, I was looking for a plan that passed three simple tests. Was the plan fair? Was the plan fast-acting? Was the plan fiscally sound?

Tonight, the House is voting on the President's proposal. The answer to all three of these simple questions is a resounding "no." Is it fair?

The other side likes to point out that the average family will receive about \$1,000 in tax breaks. What they don't tell you is that 53 percent of all taxpayers—yes, 53 percent of all taxpayers—will see less than \$100 in their pockets. However, if you make over \$1 million a year, you get a tax cut of \$93,500. This clearly is not fair.

Is it fast acting?

Well, it's going to take effect this year. Yes, that much is true. Unfortunately, the President's plan gives the break this year and next, then it takes it away again in 2005. So, the average middle class taxpayer will actually see their taxes go up 2 years from now. And this trickle-down tax policy will not stimulate the economy now. In fact, it totally depends on those who benefit—the few—to reinvest their windfall down the road. In fact, there is no guarantee that any of this will happen, so there is no guarantee that this tax cut will generate any jobs, let alone the one million promised by the President.

Is it fiscally sound?

The answer is a resounding no. The dividend tax reduction and the cut in the capital